

Appl. No. 09/597,196
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 21 April 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) An appliance, comprising:

a controller and a receiver connected thereto and effective to receive an ID-a
device identifier from a communications device;

a network interface connectable to a relay server corresponding to the ID
device identifier;

the controller being programmed to:

transmit data ~~responsive~~ corresponding to the device identifier to the
relay server, and

receive a profile address in response from the relay server;

the controller being further programmed to ~~access~~ receive profile data ~~on the~~
from a profile server, based on the profile address.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A-The method ~~as in~~ of claim 9, wherein

each of the first remote device and the second remote device correspond to a
portable device.

8. (Canceled)

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9. (Currently amended) A method of controlling the operation of an appliance, comprising:

receiving, at ~~an~~ the appliance, first access data from memory of a first remote device, the first access data providing network access to first configuration data;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the first configuration data via the network access;

configuring the appliance ~~responsively to~~ a first configuration based on the portion of the first configuration data;

receiving, at the appliance, second access data to the appliance from a memory of a second remote device, the second access data providing network access to second configuration data;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the second configuration data via the network access;

reconfiguring the appliance ~~responsively to~~ a second configuration based on the portion of the second configuration data,

wherein:

receiving at least the portion of the first configuration data includes:

receiving first relay data responsive to a network server identified in the first access data, and

receiving first profile data made accessible via the network access by the first relay data; and

receiving at least the portion of the second configuration data includes:

receiving second relay data responsive to a network server identified in the second access data, and

receiving second profile data made accessible via the network access by the second relay data.

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10. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ method ~~as in of~~ claim 9, wherein:
each of the first and second remote devices corresponds to a radio frequency identification device.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ method ~~as in of~~ claim 10, wherein
delivering the first and second access data includes co-locating the radio frequency identification device with the appliance.

13. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ method ~~as in of~~ claim 9, wherein
receiving at least the portion of the first configuration data includes
receiving a portion of profile data including data relating to the
appliance and data relating to another type of appliance.

14. (Currently amended) A method of controlling an appliance, comprising:
receiving an address of a relay server from a remote device,
transmitting a first request to the relay server,
receiving an address of a profile server from the relay server, based on the first request,
transmitting a second request to the profile server,
receiving a profile from the profile server, based on the second request, and
controlling the appliance in dependence upon the profile.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein
the remote device is a radio-frequency identification device that transmits the address associated with the relay server.

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16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further including
receiving an address of associated with an other relay server from another remote device,
transmitting a third request to the other relay server, based on the address associated with the other relay server,
receiving an address of an other profile server from the other relay server,
transmitting a fourth request to the other profile server, based on the address of the other profile server,
receiving an other profile from the other profile server, based on the fourth request, and
controlling the appliance in dependence upon the other profile.
17. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein
the address includes a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that is stored at the remote device.
18. (New) The appliance of claim 5, wherein
the communications device is a wireless device that is remote from the appliance.
19. (New) The appliance of claim 18, wherein
the device identifier includes a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) associated with the relay server.
20. (New) The appliance of claim 5, wherein
the controller is configured to determine an address of the relay server based on the device identifier.

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21. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein
reconfiguring the appliance includes creating a composite of the first profile data and the second profile data.
22. (New) The method of claim 12, further including
reconfiguring the appliance to the first configuration after removal of the second remote device from a vicinity of the appliance.
23. (New) The method of claim 22, further including
measuring a time duration after the removal of the second remote device, and
wherein
reconfiguring the appliance to the first configuration occurs when the time duration exceeds a predefined persistence period.
24. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein
the first access data includes a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) associated with a relay server.
25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein
the second access data includes an other Uniform Resource Locator (URL) associated with an other relay server.